



County Administrative Office
Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

May 23, 2016

The Honorable Hannah-Beth Jackson, Chair
Senate Judiciary Committee
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1702 - (Stone) – As Amended on March 16, 2016 - SUPPORT

Dear Chairwoman Jackson:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 1702, which would work to ensure that children who are survivors of commercial sexual exploitation are not further traumatized by outdated requirements in child welfare statute.

AB 1702 recognizes a gap in dependency law related to family reunification efforts. Specifically, existing law requires counties to provide reunification services to a parent or guardian even when that person has knowingly engaged in, or consented to, the sexual exploitation of their child. Existing law provides 16 reasons that a court may forgo reunifications, and AB 1702 would add a situation where the parent has participated in or consented to the sexual exploitation of the child.

Providing this protection to foster youth who have suffered from sexual exploitation at the hands of their parents or guardians is crucial.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 1702. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

JAMES RAMOS
Board of Supervisors Chairman
Third District Supervisor
County of San Bernardino

c: Honorable Mark Stone
Honorable Members and Consultants, Senate Judiciary Committee
San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ROBERT A. LOVINGOOD
Vice Chairman, First District

JANICE RUTHERFORD
Second District

JAMES RAMOS
Chairman, Third District

CURT HAGMAN
Fourth District

JOSIE GONZALES
Fifth District

GREGORY C. DEVEREAUX
Chief Executive Officer